



WEST VALLEY CITY  
Unity Pride Progress

## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Mayor Winder Fighting for West Valley City's Voice to be Heard**

West Valley City – Despite being sworn in just a few weeks ago, new West Valley City Mayor Mike Winder is already working hard to make sure the city is represented at even the highest levels of government.

Winder returned this weekend from meetings in Washington D.C. with the US Conference of Mayors, marking the first time in eight years that Utah's second largest city has participated in the meetings of the nation's mayors. Winder was one of three Utah mayors in meetings with eight cabinet members, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, First Lady Michele Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and President Barack Obama.

The West Valley City mayor was also one of just a handful who was called on by the president to ask a question while in a meeting in the White House's East Room.

"I told President Obama that the people and businesses of West Valley City, Utah were still burdened with annual increases in health care costs," said Winder, "and I asked that in light of recent events (i.e., the Massachusetts' senate election) if there was now an opportunity for taking a fresh look and crafting true bi-partisan health care reform."

The meetings in DC are important for the city, Winder feels. The Mayor said, "If there are grant opportunities that can help our city, I want to know about them. If there is dialogue occurring that could affect our city, I want to participate in it. And if there are decisions being made that will impact our city, I want to make sure we have a seat at the table."

With that attitude, Mayor Winder also asserted himself at his first meeting of the Salt Lake County Council of Governments, where his peers from around the valley elected him to important seats on the Wasatch Front Regional Council, the Joint Policy Action Committee, and the Council of Governments' Public Works Committee.

With the legislative session beginning, the Mayor is making sure West Valley City's voice is being heard there, too. As the first vice president of the Utah League of Cities and Towns this year, Winder will chair the League's influential Legislative Policy Committee through the session.

"Part of what I campaigned on was making sure Utah's second largest city had a greater influence in regional, state, and national municipal affairs, and I think in the first few weeks on the job I am demonstrating my commitment to making sure our city's voice is heard," said Winder.

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